

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 02695 141639Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 /065 W

-----141855Z 035761 /44

R 141523Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1723

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 2695

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, EG

SUBJ: SPOTLIGHT BACK ON KAMAL AL-DIN HUSAYN

REFS: (A) CAIRO 2305, (B) 76 CAIRO 16440

1. LASTEST PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY BROUHAHA CENTERS ON CONTROVERSIAL ATTACK BY KAMAL AL-DIN HUSAYN (REF A) ON SADAT FEB 3 LAW AND ORDER DECREE. PRESS IS FULL OF NEWS THAT 252 (OF 360) ASSEMBLY MEMBERS, WITH APPROVAL OF PA LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, HAVE CALLED FOR EXPULSION OF HUSAYN FOR A "GRAVE VIOLATION OF DUTIES, GRAVE AGGRESSION ON RIGHT OF COUNTRY AND PEOPLE... INCOMPATIBLE WITH PARLIAMENTARY BEHAVIOR". PA WITCH HUNT APPARENTLY LED BY FORMER MININFO OTEIFY. ON FEB 14, FULL PA VOTED 281-28-3(RI ABSENT) TO EXPEL HUSAYN.

2. COMMENT: SOME ASSEMBLY MEMBERS MAY HAVE BEEN MOVED SUPPORT EXPULSION PROPOSAL AS GESTURE OF PERSONAL SUPPORT FOR SADAT, WHILE OTHERS CLEARLY ACTING FROM EXPEDIENCY, AND AT LEAST SOME FROM GENUINE INDIGNATION OVER WHAT, IN CONTEXT OF PAST 25 YEARS, APPROACHES LESE MAJESTE. WE ALSO CANNOT DISCOUNT EPISODE

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 02695 141639Z

AS EARLY INDICATION THAT SECURITY DECREE, WHICH PARTLY SHUTS POLITICAL OPEN DOOR, HAS HAD PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT AND BEGUN TO STIFLE RECENTLY EVIDENT ASSEMBLY CRITICIMS OF REGIME. WITH PASSAGE OF PROPOSAL, HOWEVER RIGHTEOUSLY IT IS PRESENTED, WE CAN EXPECT INCREASING CIRCUMSPECTION EVEN FROM REGIME'S MOST WELL DISPOSED CRITICS.

3. FUROR OVER HUSAYN RAISES MORE GRAVE AND FUNDAMENTAL ISSUE THAN POSSIBLE RETRENCHMENT OF POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION. ANY THING BEARING ON ISLAMIC RESURGENCE IS OF POTENTIALLY CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO EGYPTIAN DOMESTIC POLITICS. HUSAYN, AN ORIGINAL RCC MEMBER, MAY HAVE BEEN MOVED TO REGISITER PUBLIC OBJECTION TO PRESIDENT'S DECREE BY MOTIVES OF JEALOUSY AND ENVY TOWARDS SADAT (WHO WAS MINOR MEMBER RCC). QUESTION REMAINS, HOWEVER, WHETHER HUSAYN ACTED SOLELY OUT OF PERSONAL AMBITION OR WHETHER HIS MOVE HAD BACKING OF NEWLY REORGANIZED IKHWAN MOVEMENT.

4. SADAT HAS ACKNOWLEDGED TO US THAT HE IS IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH IKHWAN AND SEEKS USE IT FOR HIS OWN ANTI-LEFTIST POLITIACAL ENDS (REF B). OF THE LEADING IKHWANIS WHO HAVE SURFACED DURING LAST YEAR, WE HAVE SUSPECTED THAT IT IS SALAH ABU RAQIQ, NOT HUSAYN, WHO MAY BE LINK WITH GOE (HE WAS CHOSEN AS MEMBER CENTER PARTY'S STEERING COMMITTEE).

5. IKHWAN LEADERSHIP IS CAUTIOUSLY SEEKING REESTABLISH ITS ORIGINAL COUNTRY-WIDE CADRES. ORGINAL SUPREME GUIDE HAD LAID DOWN RULE
BASIC ORGANIZATION MUST BE COMPLETE BEFORE BROTHERHOOD SHOULD RISK ACTIVE POLITICKING IKHWAN HAS, IN FACT, AVOIDED POLITICAL ACTIVITY, HAVING ANNOUNCED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IT WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE "AS ORGANIZATION" IN OCTOBER 1976 ELECTIONS. WE TEND TO DOUBT, THEREFORE, THAT HUSAYN CLEARED HIS HIGHLY PROVOCATIVE MESSAGE WITH IKHWAN LEADERSHIP. HIS CHALLENGE PROBABLY REPRESENTS HIS OWN, NOT IKHWAN'S AMBITIONS.

EILTS

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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